

Message Text

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62

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 L-03 SS-20 NSC-07

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /108 W

----- 039387

R 081742Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7384

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AIRLINES' MOVE TO CDG AIRPORT

REF: PARIS 5848

1. GRIMAUD LETTER (REFTEL) CONFRONTS US WITH TWO PROBLEMS IN THAT (A) IT EFFECTIVELY RULES OUT ANY FURTHER SGAC ACTION TO IMPROVE CDG CONNECTING SERVICES IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE AND (B) IT SETS MARCH 30 DEADLINE FOR PANAM MOVE WHICH PANAM CANNOT RESPECT. WE UNDERSTAND FROM ESPEROU THAT SGAC WILL USE GRIMAUD LETTER AS BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR RESPONSE TO DEPT'S MARCH 4 DEMARCHE TO FRENCH EMBASSY.

2. IN CONVERSATION EARLIER THIS WEEK WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY, WE FOUND OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF CIVAIR MATTERS AT WORKING LEVEL IN CLAUDE-LAFONTAINE'S ABSENCE FAIRLY WELL DISPOSED TOWARD OUR POSITION AND EXTREMELY ANNOYED OVER SGAC HANDLING OF THIS AFFAIR. WE FOUND HIM SOMEWHAT LESS FORTHCOMING MARCH 8 UNTIL IT EMERGED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT READING FROM ESPEROU OF MARCH 6 MEETING WITH CARRIERS
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(WHICH WE PROMPTLY CORRECTED) AND HAD NOT YET RECEIVED

COPY OF GRIMAUD LETTER. HE UNDERTOOK TO INFORM HIMSELF FURTHER ON THE QUESTION AND TO DISCUSS IT ANEW WITH CABOUAT. UNTIL WE HAVE FURTHER READING WE ARE THEREFORE A LITTLE LESS SURE THAN HERETOFORE OF FOREIGN MINISTRY SUPPORT TO FORCE FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN CONNECTING SERVICES.

3. GRIMAUD LETTER ALLEGES THAT AT MARCH 6 MEETING US CARRIERS HAD ADMITTED THAT "SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS" HAD BEEN MADE IN SCHEDULES FOR CONNECTING SERVICES. BASIS FOR THIS WAS (A) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AT MEETING THAT FRENCH HAD MADE SOME EFFORT TO IMPROVE SCHEDULES FROM THOSE FIRST PROPOSED THOUGH THIS WAS NOT YET ENOUGH, AND (B) SATISFACTION EXPRESSED BY US CARRIERS AT ESPEROU'S ANNOUNCEMENT AIR INTER HAD AGREED OPERATE ADDITIONAL MARSEILLE FLIGHT DEPARTING CDG AT 9:30 AM (IMPROVEMENT OVER 7:20 AM DEPARTURE MISSING CONNECTIONS WITH ALL PANAM AND TWA ARRIVALS), THOUGH FLIGHT WILL OPERATE ONLY EFFECTIVE APRIL 1 AND NOT ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS.

4. WE INFORMED BOTH ESPEROU AND FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL THAT ACTION OF TWA AND PANAM IN PRESENTING MINIMUM PROPOSALS FOR SCHEDULE CHANGES DID NOT IMPLY THAT THEY WERE PREPARED TO ACCEPT PRESENT SCHEDULES OR THAT THESE PROPOSALS WERE PART OF ANY CALCULATED BARGAIN AIMED SIMPLY AT PRYING A FEW LAST CONCESSIONS FROM THE FRENCH CARRIERS. MEETING HAD BEEN CONVENED AT INITIATIVE OF EMBASSY AND NOT CARRIERS IN EFFORT PRODUCE DIRECT CONFRONTATION THAT HITHERTO HAD BEEN LACKING AND WHICH IT HAD BEEN HOPED MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO RESOLVING PROBLEM BY NARROWING THE DIFFERENCES. MOREOVER, CARRIERS HAD NOT COME TO MEETING ARMED WITH MINIMUM PROPOSALS BUT HAD WORKED THEM OUT IN COURSE OF MEETING AT RCAA SUGGESTION AND THESE HAD BEEN PRESENTED INFORMALLY IN A SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE. HE INFORMED BOTH ESPEROU AND FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL AFTER CHICKING WITH PANAM AND TWA, THAT GRIMAUD LETTER THUS FINDS POSITIONS OF OUR CARRIERS UNCHANGED AND THAT OF THE EMBASSY AS WELL.

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5. COMMENT: GIVEN THE TURN THAT EVENTS HAVE TAKEN, EMBASSY FEELS THAT IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO FOLLOW UP PROMPTLY WITH NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY ALONG LINES STATE 043587 IF WE ARE TO KEEP PRESSURE ON THE FRENCH AND BRING THEM TO PROVIDE SEMBLANCE OF EQUITABLE TREATMENT FOR OUR CARRIERS. CONSEQUENTLY, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TEXT OF PROPOSED NOTE SOONEST. DEPT. MAY ALSO WISH CONSIDER WHETHER

NOTE SHOULD CONCLUDE WITH REFERENCE TO POSSIBILITY
OF CONSULTATIONS UNDER US-FRANCE BILATERAL IF
EQUITABLE TREATMENT CONTINUES TO BE DENIED.
STONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AIRPORTS, AIR SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS05930
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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30 JUN 2005

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